

ARLINGTON TREE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes – Weds., January 11, 7:30PM, Selectmen's Hearing Rm, Town Hall

Attending: Becky, Eliza, John, Eric, Mary Ellen, Mara, Ed, and Tim (Arlington's Tree Warden)

Absent: Susan Stamps

1. Approve December meeting minutes. Approved.

2. DPW Tree Department Update (Tim)

Working on backlog of removals and pruning. Tim coordinating with Steve Rae. DPW discussing hiring outside crews to get the work done faster. Tim is planning for more removals and pruning in the spring at leaf out. Database holds a by address pruning list and a removal list. Tim has reviewed about 90% of the trees to be removed in the database. Tim is prioritizing with Mike Rademacher which to address first.

- **Has fall planting list added to our tree inventory?** John not entering Fall planting list into Open Tree Map at this time. John does have a softcopy of the addresses planted this past fall and will put list on DropBox.
- **Tree Preservation Bylaw:** Tree Warden and Building Dept coordination has begun; Tim and Susan worked up an announcement notice and Mike Byrne agreed to display it at the Building Department. Tim and Mike Byrne talked about the protocol and particulars of the Bylaw. Tim gave Mike a 10" plate to have Mike use with builders to show how big a 'protected tree' is to mark on their plans. Tim also gave them a list of 12 trees as potential replacement trees. Tim told Mike he'd be available to talk through any problems.
- **Tree hearing(s).** None on the agenda, none have occurred since last meeting
- **Grant submission status.** Tim was contacted by DCR rep Julie Coop – and asked to answer a 2 page questionnaire. Tim and John worked on the document, and returned it to Julie.
- **Arlington Ctr Improvements status** – take off agenda as this project is understood to have been pushed back due to funding
- **Spring tree order** – Tim has catalog and plans to order by end of month or early February. Becky recommended that crabapple and serviceberry not be planted as street trees (low branching extends into pedestrian area of sidewalks). Trees will be ordered from Schichtel's in Vermont.

3. Publicity

- Facebook, Googlegroups. Eliza continues to post on FB
- Article in Advocate presenting Tim L. This month Mara will work on a profile of Tim. She will also brainstorm other article topics (e.g. historic photo showing Lake Street trees, tree planting efforts, etc.) Mara now has access to Dropbox
- Advocate Article presenting the new bylaw. It was decided that this should happen after introducing Tim L as new tree warden.
- ATC website: Need to check on annual renewal of domain name. Arlington Tree Committee website: who is the owner, and renewal is due 6/21/2017 Pat Thomas. PThomas@tiac.net -781-641-3073. GoDaddy. Becky will update

website with a link to the bylaw info once it is posted on the Arlington town website.

4. New Business

- **New members?** John will put a note out to Google Groups, AND will ask Joan Roman to put out a notice to the Town.
- ***Tree Bequest spending plans?*** Further discussion about plans for increasing tree canopy:
 - Newport Rhode Island idea brought up again: resident pays a portion of tree cost to receive a new tree. John suggested the Tree Committee be involved in ordering trees, collecting trees and helping in some capacity getting them the trees.
 - Possible a gift certificate for a new tree to new homeowners in Arlington
 - Re-establishing a tree adoption program that was in place in Arlington several years back that some residents fondly remember; those who opted to “Adopt a tree” picked up a tree from DPW and planted it themselves
- ***Correspondence.*** No discussion
- ***Letter re: Trees at St Paul’s Cemetery.*** Sent from the Tree Committee in December but there’s been no response
- ***Powerpoint presentation.*** Developed by John and Eric to present to various town committees to raise awareness of trees and care of trees during construction projects. Committee was asked to review and provide feedback ASAP to John and Eric so they can proceed with scheduling appearances.
- ***Interns for Inventory.*** Tim reported that he had spoken to a rep from the UMass Stockbridge program alerting them that we may be looking for interns to conduct our tree inventory work during summer 2017.
- ***Arbor Day.*** Tim expressed interest in doing an Arbor Day tree planting this year as a way of including the public. ATC members thought also this is a good chance to introduce Tim. N. Union St field may be a possible location for an Arbor Day tree(s) planting. There was also talk of possible tree walk with Tim in honor of Arbor Day.

Next meeting: Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month, February 8.